Serial No.: 10/024955 -3- Group Art Unit: 1645

## In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1-79. (Cancelled)

- 80. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid sequence encoding a <u>Dermatophagoides</u>

  <u>farinae VII Der f VII (Der f VII)</u> protein allergen wherein the nucleic acid
  comprises the nucleotide sequence shown in Fig. 6A and 6B (SEQ ID NO: 6), or the
  eoding region thereof as set forth in SEQ ID NO:6 or nucleotide bases 48 through
  681 of the nucleotide sequences as set forth in SEQ ID NO:6.
- 81. **(Amended)** An isolated nucleic acid <u>sequence</u> encoding a *Der f* VII protein allergen, comprising the amino acid sequence shown in Fig. 6A and 6B (SEQ ID NO:7), or the mature portion thereof.
- 82. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid <u>sequence</u> encoding an antigenic peptide of a *Der f* VII protein allergen, wherein the protein allergen comprises the amino acid sequence shown in Fig. 6A and 6B (SEQ ID NO:7), and wherein the antigenic peptide comprises at least one epitope of said allergen, but not the full-length protein allergen, and is not cross-reactive with <u>Dermatophagoides pteronyssinus VII</u> <u>Der p</u> VII) protein allergen.
- 83. (Amended) The nucleic acid <u>sequence</u> of claim 82, wherein the epitope is a T cell epitope.
- 84. (Amended) The nucleic acid <u>sequence</u> of claim 82, wherein the epitope is a B cell epitope.
- 85. (Original) An isolated nucleic acid sequence encoding a protein allergen capable of stimulating T cells specific for *Der f* VII protein allergen, but not *Der p* VII protein allergen, wherein the *Der f* VII protein allergen comprises the amino acid sequence shown in Fig. 6A and 6B (SEQ ID NO:7).

86. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polymorphic variant of a-Der f VII protein allergen comprising the an amino acid sequence that is at least 95% homologous to the amino acid sequence shown in Fig. 6A and 6B (SEQ ID NO:7), wherein the protein allergen is capable of inducing T cell proliferation specific for Der f VII.

- 87. (Original) A vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 81.
- 88. (Original) A host cell containing the vector of claim 87.
- 89. (Original) A method of producing a *Der f* VII protein allergen comprising culturing the host cell of claim 88 under conditions appropriate for expression of *Der f* VII protein and isolating *Der f* VII protein from the culture.
- 90. (Amended) A vector comprising the nucleic acid sequence of claim 82.
- 91. (Original) A host cell containing the vector of claim 90.
- 92. (Original) A method of producing a *Der f* VII protein allergen comprising culturing the host cell of claim 91 under conditions appropriate for expression of *Der f* VII protein and isolating *Der f* VII protein from the culture.